

## CHAIRMAN'S THIRD QUARTER REPORT, DECEMBER 2018

### Danny O'Brien, Chairman, CECA NW

I am pleased to provide the following report of the third quarter, in my second year as Chairman of CECA NW, together with details of plans for the rest of the year. I am grateful for the support I continue to receive from my fellow CECA NW directors as well as the Executive Committee and the NW membership, in delivering a programme to continue to meet members' needs and aspirations.

I am delighted to welcome Story Contracting (England), who have joined CECA NW, and we are in discussions with three other potential members.

We have held meetings with Cumbria County Council, Inovyn, Homes England and Network Rail this autumn, and a meeting has been arranged with United Utilities in January, with further client liaison meetings now being planned. Please let us know if there are other organisations you would like us to arrange a meeting with.

Our annual awards dinner took place on 12 October at the Midland Hotel, Manchester, with the highest number of guests to date. I was delighted to present awards to

CECA NW Foundations, the group established for people new to the industry, arranged a seminar and social evening on 15 November in Manchester, with presentations on collaborative working and procurement & marketing. They also manned the CECA stand at the CITB conference in Manchester.

This autumn, we have worked closely with the Chartered Institution of Civil Engineering Surveyors, on our respective training programmes, and through the NW Construction & Infrastructure Alliance, and I was very pleased to attend their NW Christmas dinner in Manchester.

Training and development comprises both the legal breakfast seminars, given by Geraldine Fleming (now of Driver Trett) and the management development programme for engineers and supervisors. Dates for the legal seminars are now on the website. A seminar on HR and taxation has also been arranged for January, jointly with CECA Wales.

On a national level, we held the third CECA Conference at Canary Wharf, with an excellent line up of speakers, and we also used the event to launch a report on the social benefits of infrastructure investment, in advance of the Comprehensive Spending Review.

Financially, we are in good shape, and have a robust business plan for 2019, as we continue to report an increase in turnover year on year. I hope you will agree that we are continuing to make progress, but we are always looking to improve what CECA offers to our members even further. I would stress, however, that CECA NW is **your** Association and, rather than second guess what your business needs are, I would urge you to contact CECA NW Director, Guy Lawson or myself, with any suggestions for us to implement on your behalf.

Danny O'Brien, Chairman, CECA NW, December 2018

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